UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250 **Notice PF-146**

For: State and County Offices

Issues About FY 2000 PFC and MLA Payments

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Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs

1 Overview

A Background

Several inquiries have been received about the possibility of additional subsidiary processing cycles.

Notice PF-134 reminded State and County Offices of the requirement to issue FY 2000 PFC payments by September 30, 2000.

Notices PF-140 and PF-141 advised State and County Offices that:

- all MLA payments shall be issued by September 30, 2000, with the exception of cases of disputed shares and pending bankruptcies and appeals
- MLA regular payment processing will be disabled on October 1, 2000
- a request for authorization codes will be required for any MLA payment not issued by September 30, 2000.

County Release No. 443 includes software for various FY 2001 processes.

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Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2001	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

1 Overview (Continued)

B Purpose

This notice advises State and County Offices that:

- an adjustment has been made to the subsidiary upload/download schedule to ensure County Offices receive a subsidiary download during the week of September 25, 2000
- County Release No. 443 shall be installed on October 2, 2000
- requests for authorization codes for FY 2000 PFC and MLA payments shall not be submitted to the National Office until additional procedure is received.

2 Subsidiary Upload/Download Cycles and FY 2001 Rollover

A Timetable for Upload/ Download Processes

To ensure County Offices receive a subsidiary download during the week of September 25, 2000, the regular subsidiary upload and download schedule has been adjusted for the remainder of September only. The adjusted schedule is described in this table.

Note: Additional subsidiary cycles are not being added to the schedule. The current schedule is just being adjusted.

KC-ITSDO Processing of Uploaded Records	Download Received in County Offices
September 15, 2000	On or about September 19, 2000
September 25, 2000	On or about September 27, 2000

B Installing County Release No. 443

County Release No. 443 is scheduled to be received in County Offices on or about September 29, 2000. Software is included in County Release No. 443 to:

- perform FY 2001 farm/crop and subsidiary rollover
- enable FY 2001 PFC worksheet processing
- issue FY 2001 PFC payments
- permanently disable FY 2000 PFC regular payment processing
- permanently disable FY 2000 MLA regular payment processing.

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B Subsidiary Upload/Download Cycles and FY 2001 Rollover (Continued)

B Installing County Release No. 443

(Continued)

In most cases, software releases shall be installed immediately upon receipt. However, if County Release No. 443 is installed before October 1, 2000, users will be locked out of the FY 2000 PFC and MLA payment processes. Therefore, County Offices shall:

- **not install County Release No. 443 before October 1, 2000**, to ensure that County Offices have full payment processing capability through September 30, 2000
- install County Release No. 443 on October 2, 2000, to ensure:
 - farm/crop and subsidiary rollover is completed immediately after the beginning of the new FY
 - users have access to FY 2001 PFC:
 - worksheet options
 - payment processing options.

3 Requests for FY 2000 PFC and MLA Authorization Codes

A Purpose of Authorized Payment Process

The authorized payment process is not intended to be an alternative to the regular payment process for PFC or MLA payments. County Offices are expected to issue all PFC and MLA payments by the September 30, 2000, statutory deadline. Exceptions to this provision apply to cases of:

- disputed shares
- pending bankruptcies and appeals.

B Release of Authorized Software

The FY 2000 PFC and MLA authorized payment software is scheduled to be included in County Release No. 444.

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3 Requests for FY 2000 PFC and MLA Authorization Codes (Continued)

C Requesting FY 2000

Authorization Codes Since authorization codes will be required for FY 2000 MLA payments, additional procedure is required for requesting authorization codes. CCC-479 is currently being revised:

- for FY 1998 through FY 2000 PFC payments
- to accommodate requests for MLA payments.

State and County Offices **shall not** submit requests for FY 2000 PFC or MLA payments until 2-PF Amendment 18 is received.

Notes: CCC-479 is being revised for FY 1998 and FY 1999 PFC payments also. However, those requests should continue to be submitted using the existing form until the new form is distributed.

County Offices shall continue to use the current CCC-479 for requests for authorization codes for FY 1996 and FY 1997.